

NEWMAN

RECTOR'S REPORT

1854-1855







1854-1855.  
13 October 1855

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.

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THE RECTOR'S REPORT

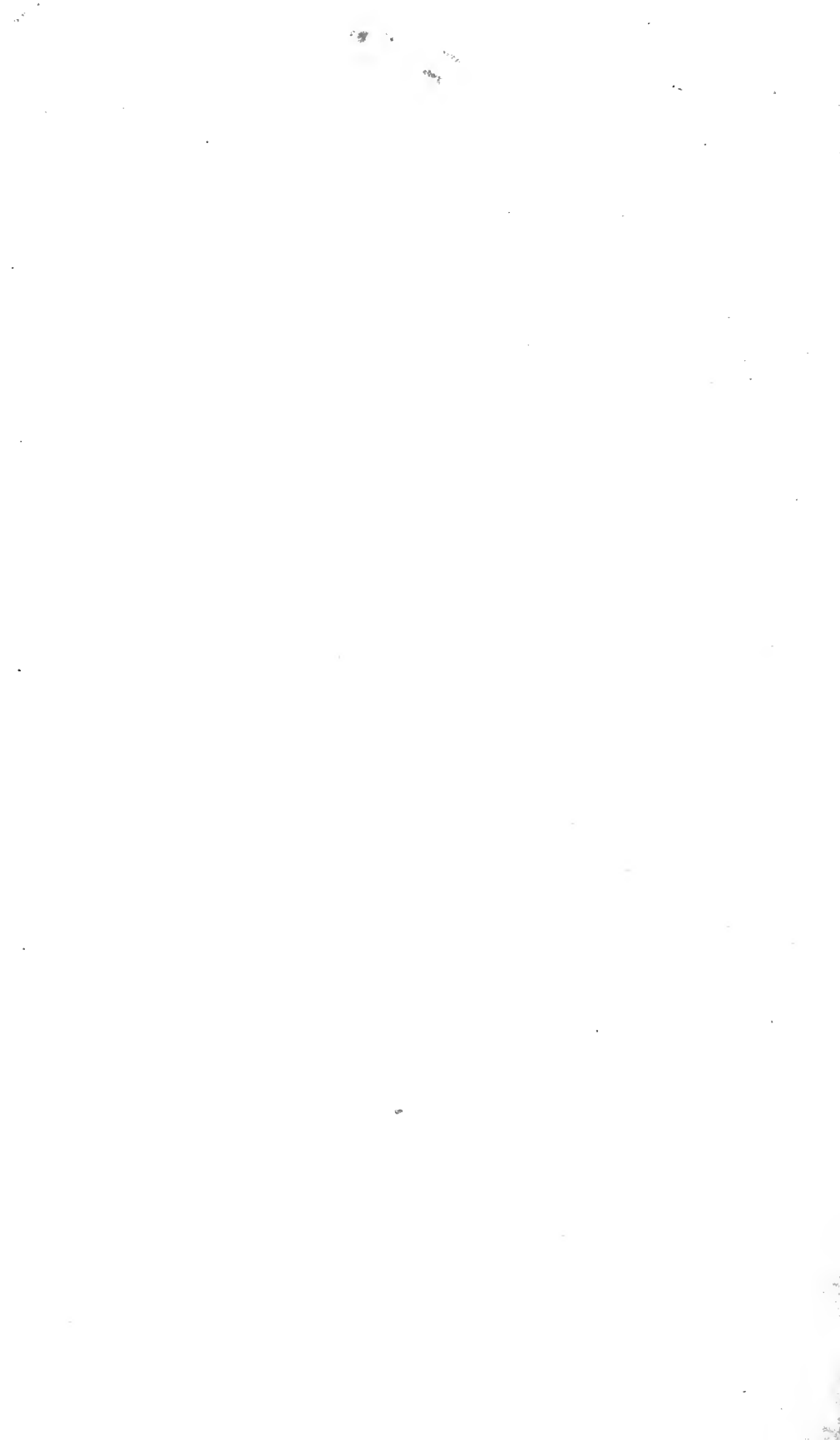
TO THEIR LORDSHIPS

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF IRELAND,

FOR THE YEAR 1854-1855.

DUBLIN:

1855.



## REPORT.

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MY LORDS,

I offer to your Lordships my hearty congratulations, that time has so far advanced since the foundation of your University, that it becomes incumbent on its Rector, in obedience to the provisions contained in your Decrees for its regulation,\* to lay before the Cœtus Episcoporum his first annual statement of its proceedings and its existing condition. I indeed, if any one, should seem to be the fit person to tender to you such congratulations, for you have condescended to make me in this matter a partaker of your anxieties; and it is with no ordinary satisfaction that I make over to your Lordships a record of acts, or at least of results, which have been the chief occupation of my mind for the last four years. This, without further introduction, I now proceed to do.

\* “Singulis annis Rector amplam et fidelem relationem de Academiæ Statu Episcoporum Cœtui, cum congregabitur, vel si conventus Episcoporum non habeatur, quatuor Archiepiscopis subjiciat”.

“Archiepiscopi de statu et gestione Universitatis descriptionem elucubrandam curent, quo singulis Episcopis pro opportunitis animadversionibus tradatur”—  
*Letter of the S. Congr. de P. F.*

The Rector's  
preparatory  
work in 1852.

1. Scarcely had I consented, in the year 1851, to accept the important and honourable post which your Lordships' Committee offered to me, when, at the advice of several persons whom it was incumbent on me to consult, I engaged myself in an inquiry into the nature of University Education, with a view of directing the attention of Catholics to the subject. This was done in a series of Discourses, which (after some of them had been delivered before audiences of distinction in this city), were successively published, and ultimately collected into one volume. They treated of the connection of Education with Religion, of the claims of Theology to take its place among the sciences, of the idea and scope of Liberal Education, and of similar topics. This was the work of the year 1851-52.

in 1853.

2. In the year that followed, I was not in a position to do more than institute private inquiries, as I did at Louvain and elsewhere, and to make general preparations in various ways, with reference to the work which I was to commence.

His admis-  
sion into his  
Office in  
1854.

3. In the beginning of June 1854, I was formally admitted to the office of Rector by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. The University may be said then to have commenced, and from that date this Report, which I have to present to your Lordships, properly begins.



I at once started a small weekly publication, which I called the University Gazette. It consisted of only a few pages, and was divided into two portions,—official and non-official. This division corresponded to the twofold object to which the work was directed. In the first place, it seemed to me desirable thereby to provide for the University an organ, distinct from the public journals, in which announcements of regulations successively made by its authorities, and a statement of its proceedings, might be contained; and, considering that, in the first beginnings of any institution, the need of such advertisements is recurring and frequent, it was expedient that it should appear at not longer than weekly intervals. The other object which such a publication answered, was one cognate to that which was contemplated in the Discourses, of which I have already made mention. For, as those Discourses attempted to determine the abstract nature of University Education, so the Essays which were introduced into the Gazette, treated of actual Academical Institutions, past or present, in their historical characteristics and several fortunes.

I think I adhered all through these Essays to the intention expressed in the Introductory Number, viz. to present to the reader “a description and statement of the nature, character, work, and peculiarities of a

The University Gazette

its object.

University; the aims with which it is established, the wants it supplies, the methods it adopts; what it involves and requires, what are its relations to other institutions, and what has been its history". I have reason to believe that this publication has had its fair measure of success for the purpose with which it was projected. I kept the management of it in my own hands till the beginning of this year, when the direct business of the University obliged me for a time to give it up altogether, and afterwards only partially to write in it; and I fear that the expense, necessarily involved in putting it into other hands, will oblige me to bring it to an end.

Question of  
commencing  
with the  
University  
at once, or  
merely with  
a College.

4. While thus endeavouring to illustrate on paper the true character and principles of a University, I was also anxiously engaged in reducing those general views to practice in the Institution itself which I had to form. Here the initial question was, in what way were we to commence it? were we in the first instance to give to it the form of a University, or that of a mere College, which, as time went on, might be gradually expanded into a University? It was not to be denied that the latter was the course which Universities had for the most part historically pursued. "Such an institution", it was observed in the publication from which I have already quoted, "has, generally speaking, grown up out of schools, colleges, seminaries, or

monastic bodies, which had already lasted for centuries; and, different though it be from them all, has been little else than its natural result and completion. While then it has been expanding into its peculiar and perfect form, it has at the same time been educating subjects for its service by anticipation, and has been creating and carrying along with it the national sympathy". This is what history tells us; and it is reasonable to suppose that especial advantages attach to what has been the matter of fact.

However, to comply with such historical precedents was simply out of the question, from the very circumstances of the case. I suppose a College is a domestic establishment or community, in which teachers and taught live together as one family; sufficient for itself, and with little or no direct bearing upon society at large. I suppose a University is a collection of Professors and Schools, independent of each other, though united under one Head and by one code of laws, addressing all comers, acting on the world, and assuming a national aspect. Now, if a College be so different from a University, how would it have been fulfilling the intentions of the Holy See or the Irish Episcopate, which contemplated a University, to set about founding a College? What would have been the need of Apostolical Letters and Synodal Meetings to commence a merely local institution, which, long

First reason  
against com-  
mencing  
with a mere  
College.

after the present generation was past, might, if so be, be turned at length by the accidental influences of centuries to come into something besides, which those then obsolete Letters and Meetings could hardly be said to have had any part in creating?

second reason.

This was my first consideration. And next I reflected that the Irish Bishops had condescended to call me from England, in order to do something, for which they were so indulgent as to think I had definite qualifications. I had for nearly thirty years of my life resided in a University founded in the mediæval period, and retaining a certain measure of mediæval traditions. In this I differed from others; but it would have been presumption in me to fancy that I had recommendations for the presidency of a College above those of a hundred well known and honourable names that might be mentioned.

third reason.

Moreover, I had submitted to the previous Synodal Meeting a sketch of the plan which I proposed to pursue,\* and this plan was framed on the idea of a University, not a College. In that sketch I contemplated making provision at once for both the liberal and the professional education of the various classes of the community. Here at once was an object far beyond the reach of any College, and only to be reached by a

\* "Lecta est relatio Rev. D. Newman, Universitatis Rectoris designati, de modo quo Universitas constitui debet"—*Acta et Decreta*, 1854.

University; but I added other objects still larger as well as various in their nature, those for instance of providing philosophical defences of Catholicity and Revelation, of creating a Catholic Literature, of influencing the general education of the country, of giving a Catholic tone to society, and of meeting the growing geographical importance of Ireland.

Whether, then, I considered your Lordships' expressed intentions, or your act in calling me here, or the representations I had laid before you already, it seemed to me clear that, desirable as it was to feel our way as we went, and let the Institution grow into shape, as time went on, by a natural process, still we were bound to begin with a University, not with a College. And there was this incidental advantage in such a decision, that, though, on any course of proceeding whatever, a considerable outlay would be required, nevertheless the first expenses of a University are less than those of a College. A few thousand pounds will put into working order the establishments necessary for the former, whereas the material fabrics and architectural display necessary for a large College render it a very costly undertaking.

5. Having discarded the proposition of beginning merely with a Collegiate Institution, I had obviously to consider next, what was the sort of commencement

University  
less expensive than a  
College.

To found a  
University  
is to erect  
Professorial  
Chairs;

proper to a University. This was an historical question, and it was as easy to answer as it was imperative to contemplate it. To open the Schools in Arts, was indeed essential; first, simply as being a mode of beginning the University; next, because students proceed through Arts, as a preliminary, before they attach themselves to a particular profession;—at the same time it had to be borne in mind that Lectures in Greek, Latin, French, and the Elements of Mathematics, which are commonly understood by the Studies in Arts, were the work of a College, and more was to be done at once, if we were to lay the foundation of a University. The first step in such a work, was to provide a large body of Professors, who, as being eminent each in his own department, should, by means of that very eminence, be advertising the Institution, and drawing to it public attention.

This method of proceeding is stated at greater length in a passage of the Paper, which was submitted to your Lordships at the Synodal Meeting. “Since students are to be gained”, it said, “by means of the celebrity of the Professors, Professors must be appointed in great measure prior to the students who are to employ them. This has been the case in the history of Universities generally. Learned men came and opened schools, and their existing reputation drew followers. Schools rose into importance, not simply

by royal favour, by civil privileges, by degrees, or by emoluments; but by the enthusiasm kindled by distinguished teachers, and the popularity and recognized utility of the subjects of which they treated”.

I went on to draw the practical conclusion as follows:—“ We must commence by bringing into position and shape various extensive subjects of study; by founding institutions, which will have a value intrinsically, whether students are present or not. This, if we can manage to effect it, will have a double advantage,—such institutions, first, will attract students; next, will have a sufficient object, and a worth in themselves, even before students come”.

and to found  
Institutions.

This is the principle, then, which I have attempted to keep steadily in view, in all my proceedings. I have aimed at laying the foundation of academical institutions, useful in themselves and attractive to the public.

6. Before entering into the details of these proceedings, I think it right, after thus bringing before your Lordships the principle on which I have acted, to mention also the assistance which was supplied to me, in the midst of great practical difficulties, for carrying it out.

Assistance  
supplied to  
the Rector in  
his work.

Your Lordships gave me a singular and most acceptable token of your confidence, in putting the measures necessary for commencing entirely into my

sole hands, both as regards their planning and their execution; with equal kindness and consideration your Committee, appointed at the Synod of Thurles, at the very meeting in which it invited me over to commence the work, selected some friends, ecclesiastical and lay, to aid me in it. The Resolution of the Committee runs as follows:

“That, as financial and other questions will require constant communication with the Rector, the following constitute an acting sub-committee for these purposes: viz.,

THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN,  
THE VERY REV. DR. LEAHY,  
JAMES O’FERRALL, ESQ.,  
MICHAEL ERRINGTON, ESQ.”

As time went on, a doubt arose, whether the subsequent Synodal Meeting had not superseded the functions of the Committee itself, from which this smaller body derived its powers; however, I was able to use the advice of its members individually, even though they did not meet together; and, whenever this was impossible, I had recourse to members of the larger Committee.

On his Grace the Archbishop’s going abroad, he mentioned to me three friends whom I might consult, as circumstances might require, instead of himself; an instruction of which I gladly availed myself.



I have also taken advantage of the judgment of Right Rev. Prelates, Priests, and other members of the Irish Church, according as the occasion made it necessary.

It has been my practice never to take any measure of consequence without securing the advice, which I considered most apposite, or which I was best able to command. In saying this, I am not putting away from me the responsibility, in whole or part, of any thing I have done. I am much indebted to the superiors and friends to whom I have referred, and I wish here to acknowledge my obligation; but the acts which followed my correspondence or communication with them, were my own.

And here I hope your Lordships will allow me to dwell for a short time on the real concern I felt at the news of Dr. Leahy, the Vice-Rector's, projected retirement, and on the pleasant and grateful recollections with which I shall ever invest my thoughts of him. It is now four years since I first acted with him on the business of the University, and I have always found him ready to give me faithful counsel in matters where I was ignorant, and prudent direction when I had occasion to avail myself of it. His suggestions have been always valuable, and I trust I have ever turned them to account. Our loss of him would be one of the

Dr. Leahy,  
the Vice-  
Rector.

few things which would sincerely grieve me in the history of the year; and, though I know well the greater claims his own part of Ireland has on him, yet this rather justifies than reconciles us to his departure.

7. I avail myself of this place also to speak of our Government and administration. academical government and administration, so far as either have existed. I thus limit the mention of them, because the University is too little advanced even into its childhood, to have either of them properly speaking. There have been very few students to be the subjects of government, nor are the Faculties yet formed with Deans at their heads, nor is a Council appointed. Under existing circumstances, I have observed the following rule. During term time, the Vice-Rector, or myself, or both of us, have been in residence; in the Vacations, though we were away, still the Secretary's office was kept open daily from 10 till 2 o'clock. For myself, I was in Ireland from September to July, forty-six continuous weeks, six Sundays alone being deducted at various times.

8. On the third of November, the feast of St. Malachi, the books of the University were opened for the reception of the names of students, and, at the very time and in the act of entering them, the rudiments of as many as three Colleges were laid down.

On the following Monday, the Professors in the Schools of Philosophy and Letters. Faculty of Philosophy and Letters, or what is com-

Government  
and adminis-  
tration.

Commence-  
ment of the  
University.

Schools of  
Philosophy  
and Letters.

monly called the School of Arts, commenced their Lectures.

Professors and Lecturers in various departments of science and research had already been recommended Lectures for the public. either to the Cœtus Episcoporum, or to the Four Archbishops, and some of these Gentlemen proceeded to give Inaugural Lectures, open to the public, in the weeks which immediately ensued. A second series of public lectures took place in the month of June of the present year. The former course was given by the Professor of Holy Scripture, the Professor (designated and provisional) of Classics, the Lecturers on Poetry and on the Philosophy of History, and the Lecturers (designated and provisional) on French, and on Italian Literature: the latter by the same two Professors, the Professor of Archæology and Irish History, the Professor (designated and provisional) of Natural Philosophy,<sup>1</sup> and the Lecturers (designated and provisional) on Geography, on Political Economy, on Political and Social Science, and on the Fine Arts. It is not surprising, but it is gratifying, to be able to state, that the abilities displayed by these gentlemen have created a marked impression in the public mind in favour of the nascent University.

9. I shall have occasion, before I conclude, to ask the indulgence of your Lordships to confirm by your definite nomination the selections and provisional ap- Principle in Professorial appointments.

pointments of Professors and Lecturers, which I have made. Here, however, I am called upon to offer some explanation of the rules which I have laid down to myself both in the establishment of particular chairs and the designation of individuals to fill them. First of all, it is obviously the paramount necessity of this University, from its peculiar position, to secure Professors, who, while sincerely devoted to Catholicism, have reputation sufficient to command the deference and confidence of the world in their respective departments of teaching. Long established institutions, foundations maintained and protected by the State, recognized and chartered bodies, can afford to dispense more or less with professorial merit or fame; but such attributes are the very life of a University which has to make its way without secular patronage to station and authority. Yet, on the other hand, this tentative and experimental character (if I may so speak), which attaches to it, makes it just as difficult as it is imperative, to interest distinguished men in an undertaking, which, for what they know, is ephemeral. Belief in a Catholic University requires an enthusiasm, which we have had neither right to demand, nor time to justify. It seemed unreasonable to ask men of name to commit themselves at once to our intellectual, social, and moral responsibilities, and to undertake new and untried engage-

ments, which might dispossess them of old and sure ones. It would have been no cause of surprise, had they been suspicious of plans which might ultimately be superseded or changed, and mistrustful of pledges which it might have been impossible for the parties making them to redeem. That, under these circumstances, I have found in matter of fact so many generous, high-minded, and zealous men to share my labours, was not to be anticipated; and, while it has a claim on my special acknowledgments, it is an omen of our ultimate success. But, the less careful they were of themselves, the more I was bound to consult for them, and to see that they did not disregard the obvious dictates of prudence, and sacrifice existing duties to an enterprise. I was bound to view the difficulties I have named as really existing, and as likely to operate as time goes on, though they may be but partially felt at the moment; and I notice them here to account for various provisions or modes of acting on my part, which otherwise may be considered awkward or superfluous.

To meet, then, the difficulties, which stood in the way of a satisfactory arrangement of the Professorial Chairs, I have acted as follows:—I have taken as few irrevocable steps as possible; and, in such steps as I have taken, I have attempted very little of rule or uniformity. Sometimes, while distinctly

Appoint-  
ment of Pro-  
fessors and  
Lecturers.

declaring my subordination to the Cœtus Episcoporum and my limited powers in the selection and retention of Chairs and Professors, I have not hesitated to declare, what I believe to be the fact, that your Lordships would not reverse any designation of mine, except on the ground of some real and substantial objection to it, approving itself to the Cœtus Episcoporum; and I have given my assurance that, though a Professor occupies his Chair only *durante beneplacito*, yet in matter of fact he never will be displaced by any act of your Lordships, while he does not offend against faith, in moral conduct, or in obedience to the authorities of the University. As to the salary, sometimes I have assigned none at all; and generally I have named a sum far short of that which the Committee of Thurles has set down, either because the Professor was not yet in full work, or because certain of his hearers paid fees for attending his Lectures. Sometimes I have not appointed Professors at all, but only Lecturers, in order that the office might be provisional; and that, for the convenience of gentlemen undertaking the office, as well as of our own. It sometimes has happened that men of reputation could assist us for a time, or to a certain point, but not permanently or with a complete devotion to our interests; and there seemed no reason why such persons should not be induced to join us,

though they should not be able to reside among us, or to do much more than give us their name, and deliver a few brilliant lectures in the course of the year.

One remark I have great satisfaction in making. It is natural that, out of reverence to a nation so <sup>Irish ap-</sup>pointments. tried in its devotion to Catholicity, I should wish to take the first Professors and Lecturers of the University principally from among the natives of Ireland;—though your Lordships, in founding a University for all who spoke the English tongue, were far indeed from having any such intention, as is plain, if in no other way, from the simple fact of your having selected an Englishman for the first Rector. However, it so happens, that I have been able to secure what you have been too generous to exact; for, putting aside Lecturers in particular languages (which would most suitably be assigned to persons who spoke them as their mother tongues), out of twenty-one Professors and Lecturers hitherto appointed, all the resident and salaried teachers but two are of the Irish nation; the Professor of Classics being English, and the Lecturer in Ancient History Scotch. Again, even including the Lecturers in particular languages, and those who are non-resident and non-salaried, of twenty-three in all, only seven, that is, less than one-third, whether salaried or resident, or not, are of any nation whatever but the Irish.

10. I now come to mention to your Lordships those University Establishments, as I have called them, to which I have directed my care, as having the promise of use in themselves, and of doing us credit with the public for their own sake, even though for the moment there were few University students to avail themselves of them.

The Medical Faculty was naturally one of the first which gained my attention. At the recommendation of some of the principal Catholic practitioners of Dublin, aided by the concurrence of the members of the sub-committee and other friends, I effected a purchase of the well known Medical School in Cecilia Street. I have every reason to be satisfied with the transaction; the situation is central; the house was in fair repair; and its internal arrangements have a convenience and completeness not to be surpassed elsewhere in Dublin, or any other part of Ireland. The University Schools have already opened there with great promise of success, though only those Professors are as yet appointed who were absolutely necessary for the commencement.

11. After making this purchase, I next turned my thoughts to the possibility of providing a lodging house, in which Catholic students of Medicine might be offered rooms at a moderate rate, and exempted from the various inconveniences, material and

University  
Establish-  
ments.

First; the  
Medical  
House.

Second; Me-  
dical Lodging  
House.



moral, which befall them in a great city. I have been told that a house of this kind would certainly fill, if once it was opened; but, having already incurred a large expense in the purchase of the Medical School itself, I did not think it prudent to venture on the new expenditure which would have been hazarded on its rent and furniture. I advertised for the names of prospective candidates of admission into it, in the event of its being established; but these advertisements have not hitherto been successful:

12. Expecting in no long time to be able to present to your Lordships a Professor of Chemistry, I have thought it right to take measures for providing a chemical apparatus suitable to the requirements of his chair. I have put this matter into the hands of a scientific gentleman of great distinction, who has kindly undertaken it, and I have the best reasons for anticipating that the purchases will be both judiciously and economically made.

Third;  
Chemical  
Apparatus.

13. Mathematical and Natural Science is another of the Faculties, which your Lordships have designed for your University. For the moment, the Professor of Natural Philosophy will take possession of one of the rooms of the University House, though he certainly ought to be more advantageously situated, in order to carry out the duties of so extensive a department of Science. I have committed to him the task of pro-

Fourth;  
Physical  
Apparatus.

viding the apparatus necessary for his chair, and I believe he has procured it in Paris at a price scarcely more than half of that which it would have cost in England.

When this gentleman, if definitely nominated by your Lordships, shall be suitably placed with his due apparatus and instruments about him, I have good reason for anticipating that an Institution in Physical Science will have been created, which has no parallel at present in the United Kingdom.

14. The Engineering School is another institution, which, when it is once in operation, cannot fail to be popular. Some delicacy and care will be required for its establishment, considering the difficulty of combining academical residence with the practical studies and the experience in Field Works which the science requires. The School opens in the ensuing Session, and the Professor has drawn up a Prospectus, with the object of meeting the difficulty to which I have alluded.

15. I ought here to make mention of the Theological School, of which so great a promise exists in the person of the Professors whom your Lordships have already nominated. When it is once fairly in operation, it is my intention, with your Lordships' sanction, to endow it with several burses or exhibitions, in favour of various schools in Ireland and England,

Fifth;  
Engineering  
School.

Sixth;  
Theological  
Foundations.

by means of sums which I have the good fortune to have in my possession; but, till its prospects are more distinct, it would be rash to take any definitive steps in this direction.

16. An institution of a directly religious character, which I have been very anxious to establish, though there have been delays in bringing it into operation, is that of stated University Preaching. I have obtained the assistance of some of the most eminent divines both in Ireland and in England, including the important aid of some of your Lordships' body. The difficulty lay in providing a Church for their reception. It is inexpedient that the University should commit itself to a definite site and fabric at so early a stage of its proceedings, and to the great outlay which would be required for a Temple suitable to so great an Institution. In consequence, I have taken upon myself the entire cost of erecting and furnishing a temporary Church, of which I propose to give the University the use, on payment to me of a rent, till such time as it seems advisable to your Lordships to provide a structure of dimensions and costliness adequate to the dignity of a Catholic University. The site, which I have chosen, with the consent of the Ordinary and the Parish Priest, is the spot of ground next the University House, the lease of which I have purchased.

Seventh ;  
University  
Church.

I cannot well exaggerate the influence, which a series of able preachers, distinguished by their station and their zeal, will exert upon the young men entering into life, externs and interns, and the students of various professions, who will constitute the mass of University residents. Moreover, such an institution will give a unity to the various academical foundations, some of which I am enumerating, and that unity, too, a unity of a religious character. It will force the University upon public notice, and raise it in public estimation by the presence of the most sacred of all schools, the school of faith and devotion; and it will maintain and symbolize that great principle in which we glory as our characteristic, the union of Science with Religion.

17. Another of the Academical Establishments of which the rudiments are already laid, is a University Library; and this seems likely to grow into shape of itself, with little more expense on our part than that of providing rooms and cases for holding it. The munificence or the providence of friends has already shown us how easily it will be formed. We are in possession of the Library of the late Most Rev. Prelate, Dr. Murray, Archbishop of Dublin. An Irish Priest, lately deceased, the Rev. M. Dillon has left us as many as five hundred volumes. A select and valuable collection of books, principally on Canon and Civil Law, has been presented by Mr. James R. Hope

Scott, Q.C., late Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and more are to come. Several voluminous and valuable works in excellent condition have been presented by Mr. Robert J. Wilberforce, late Fellow of Oriel College, and others by his brother, Mr. Henry Wilberforce, late Secretary to the Defence Association. The Rector and Professors of the University of Louvain have testified the interest they take in our undertaking by presenting the works which have proceeded, on various scientific subjects, from members of their body.

18. Lastly, I have been anxious to establish a Printing Press for University purposes; and, though from various circumstances, I have not succeeded as I had hoped, yet I trust to have a Press at command in some way or other. The publication of scientific registers or literary works will bring us into correspondence with the centres of intellect throughout Europe, and, by exchanging our publications with theirs, we shall receive an important accession of stores to the University Library. I think I may state to your Lordships three works which already are preparing or ready for publication; one on Irish Antiquities, one on a subject connected with the Literature of Poetry, and one an investigation in the department of Mathematical Physics.

19. There is one other Institution of a public

character, though not to be classed among those of which I have been speaking, which is almost involved in the very idea of a University, and the mention of which in this place will carry us forward to the remaining subjects to which I have to ask your Lordships' attention. This is the system and the collation of Academical Degrees.

The subject of Degrees.

Your Lordships have given to the Rector power, under sanction of the Holy See, to confer any Academical Degrees whatever. So far the institution in question exists and needs nothing for its completion; but, on the other hand, it is difficult to find an instance in the history of Universities, though such may occur, in which Academical Degrees were not accompanied by state recognition and civil privileges, or at least in which they were not conferred under the expectation of their ultimately attaining these advantages. So far this function of a University is not simply in our own hands; it may be necessary then to say a few words on the subject, as it practically affects us at the moment.

Degrees not recognized by the State.

There are points of view in which the circumstance which I have mentioned affects us unfavourably, and I wish to state to your Lordships, as accurately as I can, how far the inconvenience extends.

What benefit in State recognition?

First, it is plain that public opinion, and individual impression, must be regarded and treated as

Public opinion on a subject.

facts; and that if the absence of legal sanction to our degrees is judged an evil, it is so far forth an evil, whatever be the value of the judgment. It is also plain that, in proportion as that public opinion changes, the evil so far vanishes; and therefore, while we do not at all deny that it is a real difficulty in our way to be thought to be in a difficulty, still we must leave that impression alone,—not denying, I say, but not caring for it,—with the expectation that, if the opinion has no solid basis, it will in course of time disappear of its own accord, dying as it has arisen, without our having anything to do with it.

Next, as to the deficiency itself,—how far does it really stand in our way? Not much, I think, when steadily looked at. The worth of a degree is twofold,—first, as far as it is a testimony of merit; next, as being a qualification. A University prize, for instance, is a testimony of merit, but no qualification; University residence is a qualification, but no testimonial; a degree is both a testimonial of having passed an examination, and a qualification for certain situations.

Now, considering the degree as a testimonial of merit, its worth depends simply and entirely on ourselves. It is an honour “*laudari à laudato*”. If, my Lords, your Examiners and Examinations claim the respect of the public, your degrees will be necessarily

Two uses of  
a Degree.

First use;  
a testimony  
of merit.

a testimony of merit; if they do not, they will not be so. If you choose able, zealous men for your Professors and other officials, the world cannot help respecting those who go forth into it decorated with the marks of your approbation; and if you did not choose men of the first talents, name, attainments, energy, for your servants, the world would think little of your diplomas, even though they had a legal sanction.

And to tell the truth, there never was a time when the legal sanction was of less avail than at the present,—never a time when we could more easily dispense with it. This war itself has given a rude shake to all patents and monopolies of civil advancement, and has shown candidates for distinction or emolument that their hopes must rest on a base more logically cogent than their belonging to established Universities. If there was a moment when we need not sacrifice anything for the sake of state recognition, it is when appointments in the Artillery and Engineers and in the Civil Service of our Indian Empire are offered to a free *concursum*, and may be gained by our students, as well as the students of the most venerable and time-honoured Academies, provided our youths do but beat theirs in fair fight within the lists of an examination hall.

What is so emphatically true of that new order of things which is opening upon us, is becoming more and



more the case continually, even as regards those portions of the ancient regime, in which degrees are still necessary qualifications for employment or recognition.

Use of Degree in the Professions of Law and Medicine.

A degree may be considered at present to do little for the Student in Law, and next to nothing at all for the Student of Medicine. A Student of Medicine who graduated at the Catholic University, would find himself precisely in a similar position, with respect to practising, as if he had taken his degree at Oxford or Cambridge. No one practises in Medicine on an Oxford Degree. That Degree is a testimonial that the possessor has had a liberal education and has lived among gentlemen; but it has no direct bearing on his being recognized as a physician, on his receiving patients, and taking fees. He goes up to London, passes an examination before the College of Physicians, and on the diploma there obtained, not on his Oxford degree, he practises. The simple question then is, whether students from our Medical School will be allowed to present themselves for examination before bodies who have the power of granting diplomas; and, though it would be going into unsuitable details, to prove this here, I believe there is no doubt that such recognition will be granted to them. As to the Faculty of Law, certainly here we shall be at some disadvantage, for a degree at a recognized University is, I believe, a saving of Terms at the Inns of Law; but it will be

some time before we are in a situation to feel this disadvantage.

20. It must not be forgotten, moreover, that the only Degrees we shall need for a while are the Degrees in Philosophy and Letters, the Faculty in which every one must graduate before he goes into one of the higher Faculties. In this Faculty I should recommend the establishment of three Degrees, those of Scholar, Bachelor, and Master. Few youths, after leaving school, have much time, to speak generally, for University Education; and the problem we have to determine is this,—how to consult for the interests of the majority, who are soon to be engaged in the business of life, without sacrificing the definitiveness and completeness of the Academical system, and the just demands of those to whom knowledge itself is a profession. I have attempted to meet the difficulty in the following way.

Sixteen is considered to be the age of entrance. After passing an examination, the candidate for admission is entered on the University books, and is called a Student, and is submitted to a course of liberal, not professional study. At the end of two years he will be eighteen, and of the age when it is to be expected he will wish to pursue his particular profession, whether he be intended for the ecclesiastical state, for law, for medicine, for engineering, or for

Three Degrees in Philosophy and Letters.

Degree of Scholar.

trade. If this be his wish, he gives up of course the prospect of the *curriculum* of the University, whether he transfers himself to some professional department of the University, or retires from residence altogether. In either case he will have gained two years' education, though he go no further; but to give completeness to his course of study, I have arranged that he should pass an examination and take a degree, and thus have something to show for the time he has spent in the Faculty he is quitting. This degree it is proposed to call the Scholar's Degree, after the manner of some foreign Universities, the examination necessary for it being made upon such subjects of study as had employed him during his residence.

If, however, he does not yet turn aside to any particular profession, a second course of liberal studies is allotted to him, and lasts for two years, at the end of which he undergoes a corresponding examination for the Degree of Bachelor. This is at the end of his fourth year of residence, and when he has completed his twentieth year.

At the end of another three years, or at the end of seven years from entrance, when he is twenty-three years old, he is in a condition to receive the Degree of Master in Philosophy and Letters, of Doctor in Theology, in Law, and in Medicine, his diploma in Engineering, and whatever honourable distinction is de-

terminated on for proficiency in the Faculty of Mathematical and Physical Science.

Besides these Degrees, which imply a certain residence within the limits of the University, I have proposed, at the suggestion of persons who felt the desirableness of extending our influence as far as possible, to give a certificate or diploma of merit, though short of a degree, to any persons who, coming with due testimonials of respectability, are desirous, without residence, to submit themselves to an examination in Philosophy and Letters.

21. But to return to the student or freshman of the University. On admission to the University, he is at once put under discipline, and he is required to join himself to some particular House or Community, of which he becomes a member. These Houses are each under the rule of a Dean or President, and are furnished with Tutors in proportion to the number of students. Each House has its chapel and common table. The following is the course of a student's day: attendance at Mass at 8 a.m.; breakfast; attendance at Lectures from 9 to 1 or 2; dinner at 5; presence indoors by a fixed hour in the evening, according to the season. Moreover, there will be examinations once or twice a term, and the examination for the degree at the end of the course of study.

Besides these intern members of a House, it should

Diploma of merit.

University Houses or Halls.

be in the power of the Dean or President, under sanction of the Rector, to permit young men to live at the houses of their parents or friends, if they wish it; but in the case of such externs, their home, or abode, whatever it is, must be considered as a licensed lodging house, or rather as an integral part of the academical domicile; so that the young men so situated are as simply under the jurisdiction of the Dean as if they resided under his roof.

Intern and  
Extern  
members.

And lastly, each House should be self-supporting; independent of the University in all money matters, and taking nothing from the University; though at the commencement of so large and complicated a system, there always must be exceptions to the strict rule. Moreover, all the Houses, both as regards superiors and subjects, would be under the supreme jurisdiction of the University, the Dean and Tutors being in every case appointed by the Rector, and subject to his visitation and interposition.

Constitution  
of a House.

22. Of such Houses there are already three in existence; the House attached to the University, which happens to be the largest of them, and of which the Very Rev. Mr. Flannery is Dean; the Rector's House in Harcourt Street; and Dr. Quinn's House, also in Harcourt Street, of whose school the senior members have been entered at the University.

Existing  
Houses.

Besides the intern and extern members of the

Auditors.

University, and here too with a view of opening the advantages of the University to the furthest possible extent, I have allowed studious persons to attend the lectures without entrance, on the payment of a fee.

The whole number of students in Lecture attached to these Houses, including a few who attended the Lectures without entrance, in the course of last Session was forty-three; and of these, ten passed their Examination for the Scholar's Degree at its termination in July. They were enabled to do so, at the end of their first instead of their second year, in consequence of a provision I made in favour of existing classical schools through Ireland and England; viz., that residence in any of them for any time under two years, with certificate of good conduct, should count as residence for an equal length of time in the University.

Houses such as I have been describing to your Lordships, on principle small and numerous, are thus instituted in order to the enforcement of discipline upon young men, who are at a very anxious time of life, and come to us under very anxious circumstances; and, as this subject is one of the most important ones we have to consider, I hope I shall not be trespassing upon your Lordships' patience, if I enter into it at some length.

23. It is assuredly a most delicate and difficult matter to manage youths, and those lay youths, in

Number of  
Students in  
the course of  
Session.

The reason  
for separate  
Houses.

Discipline.

that most dangerous and least docile time of life, when they are no longer boys, but not yet men, and claim to be entrusted with the freedom which is the right of men, yet punished with the lenience which is the privilege of boys. In proposing rules on this subject, I shall begin with laying down, first, as a guiding principle, what I believe to be the truth, that the young for the most part cannot be driven, but, on the other hand, are open to persuasion, and to the influence of kindness and personal attachment; and that, in consequence, they are to be kept straight by indirect contrivances rather than by authoritative enactments and naked prohibitions. And a second consideration of great importance is, that these youths will certainly be their own masters before many years have passed, as they were certainly schoolboys not many months ago. A University residence, then, is in fact a period of training interposed between boyhood and manhood, and one of its special offices is to introduce and to launch the young man into the world, who has hitherto been confined within the school and the play-ground. If this be so, then is it entrusted with an office as momentous as it is special; for nothing is more perilous to the soul than the sudden transition from restraint to liberty. Under any circumstances it is a serious problem how to prepare the

young mind against the temptations of life; but, if experience is to be our guide, boys who are kept jealously at home or under severe schoolmasters till the very moment when they are called to take part in the business of the world, are the very persons about whom we have most cause to entertain misgivings. They are sent out into the midst of giant temptations and perils, with the arms, or rather the unarmed helplessness, of children, with knowledge neither of self nor of the strength of evil, with no trial of the combat or practice in sustaining it; and, in spite of their good feelings, they too commonly fail in proportion to their inexperience. Even if they have innocence, which is perhaps the case, still they have not principle, without which innocence is hardly virtue. We could not do worse than to continue the discipline of school and college into the University, and to let the great world, which is to follow upon it, be the first stage on which the young are set at liberty to follow their own bent. So proceeding, we should be abdicating a function, and letting slip the opportunities of our peculiar position. It is our duty and our privilege to be allowed to hold back the weak and ignorant a while from an inevitable trial;—to conduct them to the arms of a kind Mother, an Alma Mater, who inspires affection while she whispers truth; who enlists imagination, taste, and ambition on the side of duty;



who seeks to impress hearts with noble and heavenly maxims at the age when they are most susceptible, and to win and subdue them when they are most impetuous and self-willed; who warns them while she indulges them, and sympathizes with them while she remonstrates with them; who superintends the use of the liberty which she gives them, and teaches them to turn to account the failures which she has not at all risks prevented; and who, in a word, would cease to be a mother, if her eye were stern and her voice peremptory. If all this be so, it is plain that a certain tenderness, or even laxity of rule on the one hand, and an anxious, vigilant, importunate attention on the other, are the characteristics of that discipline which is peculiar of a University. And it is the necessity of the exercise of this "Lesbian Canon", as the great philosopher calls it, which is the great difficulty of the governors of such an institution. It is easy enough to lay down the law and to justify it, to make your rule and keep it; but it is quite a science, I may say, to maintain a persevering, gentle oversight, to use a minute discretion, to adapt your treatment to the particular case, to go just as far as you safely may with each mind, and no further, and to do all this with no selfish ends, with no sacrifice of sincerity and frankness, and with no suspicion of partiality.

Expedients  
to supply  
defect of  
Discipline.

The formal discipline of a University, then, being, from the nature of the case, defective, and needing personal influence for (what I may call) its *integrity*, I have thought to meet the difficulty in our own case in the following ways:—

First;  
communities  
small.

(1.) I propose, as I have already implied, to lodge the students in communities of limited accommodation, so that no great number will live together. A large College of lay students will be found impenetrable and unmanageable by even the most vigilant authorities. Personal influence requires personal acquaintance, and the minute labour of a discretionary rule is too fatiguing to be exercised on a large number. And this especially holds good, when an Institution is in its first beginnings.

Secondly;  
Exhibitions.

(2.) Next, it is of great importance to create among the young men a good academical spirit, which may be carried on by tradition. It is scarcely too much to say that one-half of the education which young people receive is derived from the tradition of the place of education. The *genius loci*, if I may so speak, is the instructor most readily admitted and most affectionately remembered. The authorities cannot directly create it; still they can encourage, and foster, and influence it. One special means of operating upon it is the establishment of lucrative places or exhibitions, to be given away on *concursum*. It

will generally happen that the most studious are the best principled and most religiously minded of the young men; at least a certain share of self-command, good sense, and correctness in deportment they must have; and, by bringing them forward in the way I am proposing, the respect due to successful talent comes in aid of order and virtue, and they become the centre of influence, who are likely to use influence well. Moreover, it ought to be a condition, that youths enjoying such honourable emoluments, should be interns; they should exercise certain collegiate functions, for instance, such as holding the place of sacristan, serving at Mass, assisting the Professors and Tutors in the promulgation of the Lecture List; they should have certain slight privileges, as having a separate table in the refectory, admittance to the library, an *entrée* into the Dean's and Tutors' rooms, and their special confidence; and thus, without having a shadow of jurisdiction over the rest, they would constitute a middle party between the superiors and the students, break the force of their collisions, and act as an indirect and spontaneous channel of communicating to the students many an important lesson and truth, which they would not receive, if administered to them from the mouth of a superior.

Here too a beginning has been made. An anony-

Exhibitions  
in the course  
of the  
Session.

mous Benefactor, through the Most Reverend Prelate the Archbishop of Dublin, gave two Exhibitions last November for proficiency in Classics and Mathematics; to which I ventured to add two on my own responsibility on the part of the University. Of the four successful candidates, three were interns and one extern. Two are in the number of those who creditably passed their examination for the Scholar's Degree. Ill health, I am sorry to say, deprived us for some months of another, who, I trust, will soon return to residence for the ensuing Session.

Thirdly;  
Tutors.

(3.) I expect much from the influence of the Tutors; though, from the nature of the case, some years must pass before the objects I wish them to answer can be really carried into effect. They should be young men, not above two or three years older than their pupils, and such as have lately passed their own course of study in the University, and gained honours on examination, or are holders, or lately were holders, of the lucrative places or exhibitions of which I have been speaking. They would be half-companions, half-advisers of their pupils, that is, of the students; and while their formal office would be that of preparing them for the Professors' Lectures, and the Examinations, or what in this place is technically called "grinding", they would be thrown together with them in their amusements and recreations; and, gaining their confi-

dence from their almost parity of age, and their having so lately been what the others are still, they may be expected to exercise a salutary influence over them, and will often know more about them than any one else.

(4.) And I should hope a good deal from the influence of the Professors; though of course they must be left to their own discretion and inclination in this matter. Still, I should hope that the Professors will without effort, and almost spontaneously, draw around them such young men as, from a turn for a particular study, or in other ways, are open to their influence.

Fourthly;  
Professors.

(5.) Above all, incalculable benefit will, I trust, accrue from the institution of University Sermons. I doubt whether it would not defeat their influence, if the students were under an obligation to assist at them; but, seats and the attraction of good preachers being supplied to them, it will become a fashion, or rather a rule of the place, to attend the University Church, and, through the divine blessing, their hearts will receive indelible impressions.

Fifthly;  
Sermons.

It is desirable too that confessionals for the students should be provided in the Church; and that a religious Confraternity should be erected there; and that opportunity should be given for the cultivation of particular devotions.

Sixth; the  
Confessional,  
etc.

(6.) I should add that an academical gown, to be

Seventh;  
Academical  
Dress.

worn at Lecture, at Church, in Refectory, and on other formal attendances, would much subserve the cause of discipline; and academical solemnities at stated times, whether religious or of a secular character.

24. And now I have but two subjects more on which I have to ask your Lordships' attention, though they are subjects of no slight moment. The first is that of the expenditure of the year.

The expenditure naturally divides itself under two heads;—that which is current and ordinary, and that which is extraordinary and belongs to the first establishing of the University.

(1.) Of the extraordinary expenses, the bulk of which takes place once for all,

1. First, I have to mention the fitting up the Lecture Rooms in the University House, as Schools especially of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters,—the Professors of which are accustomed to lecture with books and maps or boards, but without instruments or apparatus. These are the rooms on the ground and first floors of the House No. 86 Stephen's Green.

2. Cases for the University Library have been fitted round one of these rooms; they were required at once, in order to receive the books of the late Archbishop of Dublin.

Expenditure.

Lecture Rooms.

Book Cases.

3. A far more considerable expense has been that of putting into habitable condition the upper stories and basement of No. 86, in order to adapt them to the purposes of an Academical House or Hall. It has been in some instances necessary to divide the rooms, which were too large and too few for the use to which we had to put them. A refectory had to be gained, drains to be repaired or made; the whole house had to be painted, and the rooms papered. A kitchen range and other fixtures had to be supplied or put to rights. The roof of the stables had to be renewed. The whole had to be furnished. There still remains a great deal to do; a chapel is needed; and the courts at the back of the house are still in disorder.

Mr. Flannery's House.

4. With a view of withdrawing the students from the society found at the public billiard rooms, I have borrowed a sum from the University for forming a billiard room out of one of the stables. The Loan altogether will be about £160, and it will be gradually repaid by the incomings from the use of the table.

Billiard Room.

5. This Academical House being already full, I have, with the advice of others, obtained a lease of nineteen years, without fine, of the premises No. 87, at a rent of £57 15s. a year. This new house will afford accommodation for about a dozen students more, and the expense of fitting it up will not be considerable.

Increase of Mr. Flannery's House.

6. Next, as to the Rector's House in Harcourt Street. To this House I have added a chapel and a new building consisting of four rooms. I have made various necessary additions to the house, and have in a good measure furnished it. The furniture, etc., has cost me £274; the new buildings and additions, £265; and the chapel, £110: altogether, in round numbers, £650. Of this sum, which I have actually paid or owe, I propose to take a moiety upon myself, that is, £325. The other half I propose to ask of the University; but of this sum, £325, thus paid me back, I intend to put £275 to the credit of the New Church Fund. Thus, on the whole, I shall be expending on University objects out of my own means, £600. I am or shall be enabled to do this by means of the liberal salary which is assigned to me as Rector.

7. The third house, Dr. Quinn's, has been no expense to us whatever. Certain of the senior students have been entered members of the University and have attended the Lectures. Their free admission has been their gain; ours has been the advantage of an increase of numbers, the addition of some clever youths, one of whom gained an Exhibition, and another an extraordinary prize, an opening in our favour to a class in Dublin society who otherwise might not send their sons to us at all, and the satisfaction of connecting ourselves with an existing institution of the



place, which is presided over by clergymen of great consideration.

8. Another source of initial or extraordinary expense has been the Medical School in Cecilia Street. Medical School. We bought it for £1,450; we have spent in the course of the last year £152 10s. for fixtures, repairs, and furnishing.

(2.) Passing on to the ordinary and recurring charges, I have to mention,—

1. The Professors and Lecturers; the charge for whom will of course increase year by year according Professors and Lecturers. as the Faculties are supplied with their complement of chairs. I think it very desirable that most of them should ultimately be paid in part by means of fees. The Medical Professors will gain a portion of their salaries in this way from the first. There are Chairs, however, which, as demanding the whole devotion of the persons who fill them to the subjects themselves which they profess, and depriving them of the emoluments of a secular calling, must ever look to the University for their support. There are other Chairs whom it is politic to pay well in the beginning of the institution.

2. The rent, taxes, rates, gas, firing, waiting, etc., incurred by that part of the House No. 86 Stephen's Lectures. Green, which is devoted to University Lecture Rooms and Library, form another head of ordinary expense,

and have amounted in the last year to about £163 3s. 9d.

3. Next may be mentioned the payment of the Exhibitions, which during the first year has cost no more than £50, with the expense in addition of a set of books given as a prize to a candidate who came close upon the successful ones.

4. There ought to be little more of ordinary expenditure; but here I am brought to a subject of some anxiety, to which I am obliged to ask your Lordships' particular attention. A strong opinion has been expressed, ever since a University was seriously contemplated, that a student's expenses must be very low, if the laity of Ireland were to take advantage of the education it offered. In the advertisement put out shortly before our opening in November last, fifty guineas was proposed as the pension of an intern for the Session; but a decided judgment was at once pronounced by friends of the Institution against even so moderate a sum. I defended it on the ground that, while an Academical House was small, or rather when its members were most numerous, it could not pay its expenses at a lower rate per head; and that, to lower it, was merely to call on the University to pay part of them. I was answered that, the University being intended for the special benefit of Ireland, and the contributions coming principally from Ireland, it was fit

that the youth of Ireland should receive some portion of their maintenance from the University Funds. I felt the force of this argument, and lowered the terms to forty guineas for the Session; that is, as regards Mr. Flannery's House, the only House of which the University was itself the founder. The event has been, as it was not difficult to foresee; the most anxious and praiseworthy economy has been exercised by Mr. Flannery, but the expenses have come to nearly twice the receipts. In other words, it has been impossible to meet the rent, taxes, and rates of a house so situated, the remuneration of Dean and Tutors, the board, coals, lights, washing, servants, and other charges of from five to thirteen students (the house having but gradually filled), at a pension per head under £80 a year.

The experiment of the Rector's House tends to the same conclusion. I have had about eight young men in it, and have been paid more than £80 a piece; yet, while I have not been able to provide a Dean, Tutor, or Chaplain, but have taken these offices on myself, I have hitherto had a serious overplus in the current expenditure, though, as I am now increasing my numbers at the same pension, I am sanguine, not only of meeting the expense in future, but of getting back what I have lost.

Students  
Rector's  
House.

However, such is the fact, that Mr. Flannery's

House is involved in a debt of £460 12s., which the University has accordingly to pay. The question follows, what is to be done henceforth?—is the pension to be raised? On this subject I shall offer a suggestion before I conclude.

25. Here then I am brought to the last point to which I have to ask your Lordships' attention; and that is, our prospects, and the measures for which I respectfully hope to obtain your Lordships' sanction.

(1.) I beg hereby to present to your Lordships the names of the gentlemen whom I have designated to Chairs in the various Faculties, trusting to obtain for them your Lordships' definitive nomination *durante beneplacito*.

1. Dogmatic Theology, the Rev. Father Edmund O'Reilly, D.D., S.J.

2. Holy Scripture, The Very Rev. Dr. Leahy, D.D.

3. Archæology and Irish History, Eugene Curry, Esq., M.R.I.A., etc., etc.

4. Political Economy, John O'Hagan, Esq., M.A.

5. Geography, J. B. Robertson, Esq.

6. Classical Literature, Robert Ornsby, Esq., M.A.

7. Ancient History, James Stewart, Esq., M.A.

8. Philosophy of History, Thomas W. Allies, Esq., M.A.

9. Political and Social Science, Aubrey de Vere, Esq.

Propositions  
and sugges-  
tions.

Presentation  
of Professors.

10. Poetry, D. Florence M'Carthy, Esq.
11. The Fine Arts, J. H. Pollen, Esq, M.A.
12. Logic, David Dunne, Esq., D.D.
13. Mathematics, Edward Butler, Esq., M.A.
14. Natural Philosophy, Henry Hennessy, Esq.,  
M.A.
15. Civil Engineering, Terence Flanagan, Esq.,  
M.I.C.E.
16. French Literature, M. Pierre le Page Renouf.
17. Italian Literature, Signor Marani.
18. Practice of Surgery, Andrew Ellis, Esq.,  
F.R.C.S.
19. Anatomy, (1) Thomas Hayden, Esq., F.R.C.S.I.
20. Anatomy, (2) Robert Cryan, Esq., L.R.C.S.I.,  
and K. & Q. C.P.I.
21. Physiology and Pathology, Robert D. Lyons,  
Esq., M.B.T.C.D. & L.R.C.S.
22. Demonstrator in Anatomy, Henry Tyrrell, Esq.,  
L.R.C.S.I.
23. Demonstrator in Anatomy, John O'Reilly, Esq.,  
L.R.C.S.I.

(2.) Next I wish to bring before your Lordships the desirableness of our becoming connected with the existing schools in Ireland, such, that is, as undertake what is called secondary instruction. Such a measure would strengthen the University through the country; it would encourage and elevate the schools which

joined us; it would consolidate and advance the whole system of Irish education, and bring it into its due relation to the Church; and, if there be any movement elsewhere to extend an opposite system, based on principles short of religious, and breathing an uncatholic spirit, it would be the surest bulwark against its encroachments. We should be able to give certain privileges to the schools which we affiliated, and in turn we should ask to exercise a power of visitation over them.

(3.) It would be a great satisfaction to me, and facilitate the discharge of my duties, if your Lordships would appoint some persons as a committee of finance, who would meet statedly in Dublin, and with whom I might treat, when I am in want of means for the objects which I may have in contemplation. During the past year I have been in considerable difficulty from the circumstance that there was no authorized board or body to whom I could go for money. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the Most Rev. and Right Rev. the Trustees, whenever I brought the subject before any of their members, and of many other persons, especially the Vice-Rector, Mgr. Yore, V.G., and Mgr. Meagher, V.G., who were informed of my need; and I am glad of this opportunity of making my acknowledg-

ment to those many zealous friends; still, the whole responsibility of the expenditure was thrown upon me, and I was, as it were, dipping my hand into a bag, and taking out what I wanted at random. The four Trustees and the four Archbishops were, either not in the country, or in their own respective parts of it; and I had not the means of consulting them, or explaining what I was contemplating. It would be otherwise, if during term time three or four men of business-met together, say once a month, or more frequently when there was occasion, before whom I could present myself, state my needs, and consult with them to what extent they should be met. Should this *desideratum* be supplied, it will be superfluous for me to make now any calculation of the expenses of the ensuing year,—a difficult undertaking, which at best I should but unsatisfactorily discharge. A board of finance in Dublin would receive my application for pecuniary means from time to time, as the necessity arose.

(4.) Next, as to Mr. Flannery's House. As its members increase, its annual debt will diminish; but I very much fear that in one shape or other it must look to the University Fund for assistance, while the pension is so low as forty guineas. I suggest then to your Lordships' better judgment the following scheme;

Endowed  
House for  
Irish Stu-  
dents.

viz., that you should consider it an endowed house for the natives of Ireland, and should yourselves exercise the right of presentation to it, subject of course, in the case of every youth presented, to the condition of his passing the Examinations, and otherwise satisfying the authorities of the University. It might be called St. Patrick's House or Hall, and would thus come into connection with the whole of Ireland.

Endowed Faculty of Medicine.

(5.) Considerable misgiving exists of the stability of the Medical School, under the notion that after a few years it may come to an end, from deficiency in the annual contributions to the University. This uncertainty, which is doing us no little harm, would be removed at once, if your Lordships thought right to endow the Medical Faculty to the extent of £300 or £400 a year; I mean, to create a trust, or virtual trust, and assign certain sums to be applied to the benefit of the University Medical School for ever, or for a certain fixed term of years.

Medical Lodging House.

(6.) I cannot help wishing to have your Lordships' sanction to the establishment of a Lodging-House in connection with the same Faculty, which might ultimately become a University Hall for Medical Students. My plan would be, to begin with a simple lodging, if not a boarding house, where young men would find comfort and economy united. Such



qualifications, I have understood, are much needed in the lodgings of Dublin, and the want of them is not the worst of the evils to which medical students are exposed. Our own anxiety to provide them with what is better in a social point of view, would of course be subordinate to the higher object of removing them from the temptations which surround young men who are thrown without protection on a large town. The details of my plan would be submitted to the projected finance board, of which I have already spoken.

(7.) Lastly, I should suggest to such a board the advisableness of granting £50 for the next year <sup>University</sup> <sup>Gazette.</sup> towards the expenses of the University Gazette. I had proposed to bring it to an end before this date, as it is uncertain whether it will pay its expenses; but have hitherto been delayed, from representations made to me, that it had done and was doing good, and that, moreover, if it stopped, that very circumstance would look like a failure, and prejudice the interests of the University.

And now nothing remains for me but to return to your Lordships my best thanks for having <sup>Conclusion.</sup> allowed me to occupy so much of your time; but, in an undertaking so anxious and important as that in

which we are engaged, and on the first occasion of my presenting myself before you, I have judged it better that my Report should be too circumstantial, than incur the imputation of meagreness or vagueness. To approve myself to your Lordships in what I have undertaken is to me a sacred duty; and the great consideration with which you have all along honoured me, the zeal you have shown in my behalf, and the feelings of personal affection which so many of your Lordships have allowed me to entertain for them, have also made it an intimate and earnest wish of my heart. My only regret is, that the time is so limited, which, at my age, and with my engagements elsewhere, I can hope to be allowed to employ in securing it; and this feeling has been the reason of my looking with anxiety at those delays, which after all are inseparable from the commencement of any great undertaking. I have the most simple confidence of our ultimate success, and have ever felt it: such an Institution is wanted in that wide world in which the English tongue is spoken; and Ireland is evidently the soil to produce it, and Dublin is its natural seat. The determination of the Holy See, the energy of an ancient and famous hierarchy, are but supplying a great demand. An Institution which has already attracted teachers from other countries, has given the earnest

that it will attract students from them also. Its aims are as large as they are high; and the wonderful Providence which has watched over this country is our ground for a humble but sure confidence, that it will be blessed with successes as lasting as they are widespreading.

Begging your Lordships' blessing.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' faithful servant in Christ,

JOHN H. NEWMAN,

Of the Oratory.

October 13, 1855.

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October 18, 1830





